

Fact sheet for Inmates

What is Mates Storage?

Corrective Services has given NSW Prisoners' Aid the job of running the **Inmate Property Service (IPS)**.

Prisoners' Aid calls the IPS, **Mates Storage**.

Mates Storage can collect and store **about 1 cubic metre** of your **personal belongings**. Items can be collected from police, &/or from your home - but only if they are within 100km of the Sydney GPO. **Items might be:** clothes, wallet, Medicare card, ATM card, phone, birth certificate, passport, photos, linen, small electricals like a fan/heater.

How do you use Mates Storage?

Talk to the SAPO, or your Wing or Unit Officer. There is a **Referral Form**. **The staff member will fill this Form in with you.** They will send the Form to Mates Storage.

We collect and store your things for free.

Are there limits on what Mates Storage can store for you?

Yes, there are limits: about 1 cubic metre. **No** food, alcohol, plants, animals, tobacco, lighters/vapes, or medication. Nothing illegal. Nothing flammable.

How long will Mates Storage keep your belongings?

Until after you are released. You have up to **3 months (90 days) after your release date**

to arrange with Mates Storage to get your belongings back. We deliver to Villawood Immigration Detention Centre.

How do you get your belongings back?

You contact Mates Storage (Mon – Fri):
Mobile: 1300 722 679 (preferred)

Mates Storage is at **Unit 10** (next door to Fredy's Café), **7-29 Bridge Road, Stanmore 2048** (behind McDonald's). You can arrange to collect your belongings in person. **BUT** your items are not stored here. So, you cannot just turn up to collect them. **You must make an appointment – and you must turn up on time.**

Or Mates Storage may be able to return them in person – but only if you live within 100km of the Sydney GPO. Otherwise, they can be posted to you, or maybe sent by courier (but there may be a charge). Talk to Mates Storage about your options.

What happens if you do not get in touch with Mates Storage?

If you do not collect your belongings within 3 months (90 days) after your release date, **they will be thrown out, or donated.**

If you have not collected your things and come back into custody within 3 months (90 days) of release, **tell the SAPO** that Mates Storage has your belongings. The SAPO will tell Mates that you're back in custody, and Mates will continue to store your belongings.